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February 23, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Subject: Response to "Detailed Action" on Election/Restriction issued by USPTO Patent Examiner Harold Joyce, dated 02/09/2005, pertaining to a patent application entitled "Method and Device to Prevent Indoor Release of Carbon Monoxide and Smoke from Combustors." (Application /Control Number:10/731,206)

Dear Sir/Madam:

In compliance with the instructions stated in Patent Examiner Harold Joyce's Detailed Action (see copy attached) dated 02/09/2005, I request the following:

(1). Add a generic claim to the patent, to become the first claim in the revised CLAIMS, as follows:

*Rule 126
(1)
Claim 21(new) "A means to reduce the chance of indoor release of dangerous exhaust gases including carbon monoxide and smoke from any indoor burner such as a wood-burning stove, a pellet stove, a fireplace, with the method being based on the use of a device that can cause the internal pressure of the building housing the said burner to rise to above the ambient atmospheric pressure, so that said exhaust gases will be forced out said building through a chimney, with said device being either an air pump that blows air into said building, or being a stagnation tube mounted on a rotating vane which draws air into the building by using wind power."*

I believe that the above generic general claim is justified due to the lack of such means or concept reported in the literature or in any other patent, as discussed in the SPECIFICATION.

(2). If it is necessary for me to make an election, I would like to elect Claims 16 to 20, which deal with the air pump system based on Figs.1 to 3. I believe that this elected embodiment is more useful than, and as justifiable as, the other embodiment. The elected embodiment is discussed in BACKGROUND OF INVENTION, under 3 Alternative Invention (page 6 of SPECIFICATION).

It is my understanding that federal laws allow individual inventors, who are filing for their own patent applications, to seek help from the Patent Examiner to write one or two claims for the inventor. In view of this, I hereby request Mr. Joyce to review the generic claim that I have prepared, stated above in boldface italic letters, to see whether the claim meets his approval, and if not, to revise it so that it will meet his approval.

I look forward to hearing from Mr. Joyce again.

Sincerely,

Henry Liu
Henry Liu

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Cc: Mr. Harold Joyce, Patent Examiner

Attachment: Office Action Summary